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THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN : Sir, during question hour we cannot argue the relative merits of automation and otherwise. If the hon. Member wants information, I can give.

Rural water-supply schemes

* 251 Q.—SRI R. VENKATACHALAM : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(a) whether any priority list has been drawn up for the execution of rural water-supply schemes under the Village Works Programme in Salem district;

(b) whether the schemes have been taken up according to the priority list;

(c) if not, the reasons for the deviation; and

(d) the procedure adopted for taking up the execution ?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister) : (a) Yes.

(b) Yes.

(c) Does not arise.

(d) The work will be got sanctioned with the prescribed minimum contribution wherever necessary by the Panchayat Union Council concerned. Subsequently, an estimate for the work will be got prepared and sanctioned technically and administrativeley by the competent authority. After sanction of the estimate, the work will be taken up for execution.

திரு. ஆர். வெங்கடாசலம் : துணைத் தலைவர் அவர்களே, கிருஷ்ணகிரியைக் காட்டிலும் எண்ணிக்கை வரிசையில் பின்னுள்ள காவேரிப்பட்டணத்திற்கு முன்னதாக தண்ணீர் சப்ளை கொடுத்திருக்கும்போது, கிருஷ்ணகிரிக்கு ஏன் தாமதிக்கப்பட்டது என்று அறிய விரும்புகிறேன்.

கனம் திரு. ஆர். வெங்கட்ராமன் : பொதுவாக தாமதம் ஏற்படுவதற்குக் காரணம் அவர்கள் கட்டவேண்டிய மினிமம் தொகை கட்டாமல் இருப்பது. ஆனால் கிருஷ்ணகிரியைப் பற்றித் தனியாகத் தகவல் வேண்டுமென்றால், தனிக் கேள்வி அந்தக் காரணத்திற்காகப் போடவேண்டும்.

International Students Hostel

* 252 Q.—DR. A. SREENIVASAN : Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state with reference to the answer given to the Legislative Council Question No. 141 on 31st July 1962 :—

(a) whether the Government have since received particulars of the transfer of the portion of Island Ground from the Defence Ministry for the construction of the International Students Hostel; and

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(*b*) whether it is a fact that the Government of Madras moved the Government of India in the Ministry of Defence for allotment of a portion of Island Ground for the construction of International Students Hostel?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister): (*a*) & (*b*) No, Sir.

SRI T. P. SRINIVASAVARADAN: Sir, are the Government aware that Shri K. Raghuramiah, Minister of State in the Union stated so and is it the Madras Government that moved the Government of India for allotment of a portion of the Island Ground?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN: Sir, I have answered "No", to question (*b*).

Dilapidated houses

* 253 *Q.*—SRI R. VENKATACHALAM (on behalf of SRI A. K. Thangavel Mudaliar): Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to take over the dilapidated houses of those persons who have migrated from rural parts and to construct houses in those sites for the houseless agriculturists; and

(*b*) if so, the stage at which the matter now stands?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister): (*a*) No, Sir.

(*b*) Does not arise.

Panchayat elections

* 254 *Q.*—SRI R. VENKATACHALAM: Will the Hon. the Chief Minister be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether there is any proposal to postpone the Panchayat elections in the State; and

(*b*) if so, the reasons therefor and when the Government propose to conduct the Panchayat elections?

THE HON. SRI R. VENKATARAMAN (on behalf of the Hon. the Chief Minister): (*a*) & (*b*) It has since been decided to postpone the elections to all local bodies.

District Headquarters Hospitals

* 255 *Q.*—SRI S. K. SAMBANDHAN: Will the Hon. the Minister for Health be pleased to state—

(*a*) the number of District Headquarters Hospitals that are having ambulance vans; and

(*b*) the number of vans used by each such hospital?

THE HON. SRIMATHI JOTHI VENCATACHELLUM: (*a*) Six.

(*b*) One.